

RICHARD H. LEHMAN
19TH DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA

WHIP-AT-LARGE

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

□ 1226 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-0519
(202) 225-4540

□ SUITE 105
2377 W. SHAW AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93711
(209) 248-0800

March 8, 1994

Mr. Roger Kennedy
Director, National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Kennedy:

My office has been contacted by the Mineral King District Association, a group of cabin owners in the Mineral King Valley, which was annexed to Sequoia National Park in 1978. They are concerned about continuing use of their cabins as use permits expire and the original lessees face age and health considerations. They have asked for legislative action to reverse what they describe as an eviction clause in the transfer legislation.

Before making a decision as to whether or not to offer a legislative remedy to this situation, I would like to know what solutions are possible at the administrative level. Therefore, I am asking your office to respond to the following items:

1. Exclusive of concession services, are there any other sites in the National Park system in which privately owned cabins are situated on government land?
2. For the Mineral King cabins, does statute or regulation completely prohibit transfer of permittee of record status within the same family or to a non-relative? My understanding is that some transfers have occurred since 1978, despite prohibitive language in the transfer act.

I would also ask that Mr. Tom Ritter, Superintendent of the park, meet privately with the leadership of the group to discuss their needs and concerns. A representative from my office would be available for this meeting if the parties feel this would be helpful. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

RICHARD H. LEHMAN
Member of Congress

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